

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 24-42 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. New claims 24-42 are added. Claims 2-23 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claims 16, 18 and 22 Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to dependent claims 16, 18 and 22 for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 16, 18 and 22 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 16, 18 and 22 is respectfully requested.

New claims 40-42 correspond to canceled claims 16, 18 and 22, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that claims 40-42 satisfy all formal requirements.

II. Claims 14, 16, 18 and 22 Satisfy the Requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

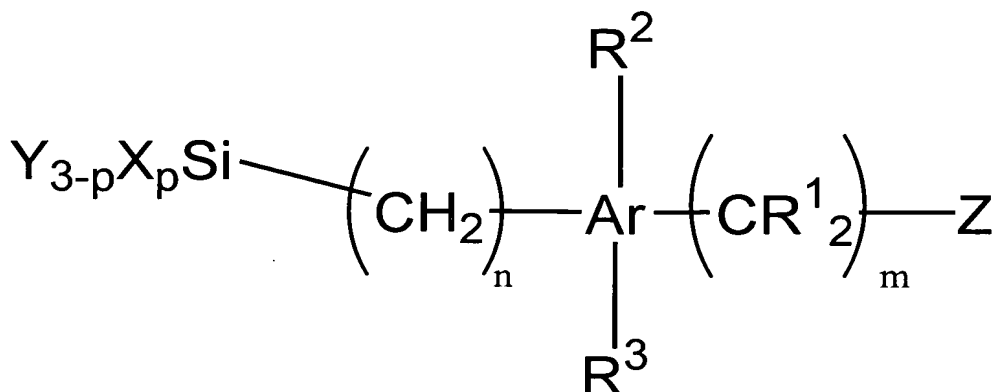
The Office Action rejects claims 14, 16, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 14, 16, 18 and 22 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

New claims 39-42 correspond to canceled claims 14, 16, 18 and 22, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that claims 39-42 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

III. Pending Claims 2, 14, 16, 18 and 22 Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 14, 16, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by "Patterning of Self-Assembled Films Using Lithographic Exposure Tools," Dressick et al. (hereinafter "Dressick"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 14, 16, 18 and 22 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein. With respect to claim 1, from which claims 24-26 and 37-42 depend, Dressick fails to disclose or suggest forming a molecular film by using an organic silicon compound as a starting material, the organic silicon compound having a chemical structure represented by



wherein Z is an alkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, a silyl group, a cyano group, or a thiol group, as set forth in independent claim 2.

Instead, Dressick discloses an organosilane, such as PEDA, having a structure that includes an amino group as element Z in the organic silicon compound represented by the formula. See Fig. 8 in Dressick.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 24-26 and 37-42 are patentable over the applied art.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 14, 16, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 24-42 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Mark R. Woodall
Registration No. 43,286

JAO:MRW/sqb

Date: September 9, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--